Nutritional Management of Cognitive Dysfunction in Geriatric Dogs

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Nutritional Management of Cognitive Dysfunction in Geriatric Dogs



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Outline

- Background
 - Relevance
 - Define
 - Symptoms & diagnosis
 - Brain aging
- Nutritional management
 - Functional ingredients and their effectiveness
- Final remarks
- Future research
- Take home message



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Aging Dogs



- Improved nutrition and medical care has increased canine longevity
- U.S. canine population
 - 70 million
- More than 45% is older than 6 y of age
 - 15% \rightarrow ≥ 11 years old

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AVMA, 2012

Aging Dogs

- Average life span of a dog
 - 1930's ≈ 7 years old
 - 2000's ≥ 12 years old
- Longer life spans mean increased
 prevalence of age-related medical conditions
 - Behavioral and cognitive problems





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Dog Years

Relative Age of Dogs in Human Years													
Pet's age	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mature weight													
0-20 lbs	15	23	28	32	36	40	44	48	52	56	60	64	68
21-50 lbs	15	24	29	34	38	42	47	51	56	60	65	69	74
51-90 lbs	14	22	29	34	40	45	50	55	61	66	72	77	82
> 90 lbs	12	20	28	35	42	49	56	64	71	78	86	93	101
Growth		Та	ble A	dapi	ted f	rom	Purir	na — 7	The A	lging	Rate	e of L	Dogs
Senior													

Aging Dogs and Humans

- Aged dogs show a parallel with several aspects of human brain aging
 - Progressive decline in both cognitive and behavioral function
 - Neuropathological changes
 - Alzheimer's disease

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> Mongillo et al., 2013. Age (Epub ahead of print) Head E. 2013. Biochem Biophys Acta. (Epub ahead of print)

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Aging Dogs and Humans

- Dogs
 - Present a sophisticated repertoire of complex behaviors
 - Share same environment
 - Thrive on similar diet as humans

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Osella et al,. 2007. Applied Anim. Behav. Sci. 105: 297-310 Axelsson et al., 2013. Nature. 495: 360-364 Canine Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS) is described as a progressive neurodegenerative disorder of senior dogs, characterized by a gradual decline in cognitive function (learning, memory, perception and awareness).



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Ruehl et al., 1995. Prog. Brain Res. 106: 217-225



CDS in Dog's Population

Ruehl et al., 1995. Prog. Brain Res. 106: 217-225

- Early effects of CDS can be seen in 7y old dogs
- CDS was more pronounced in dogs > 9y
- 75% of owner of dogs > 7y
 Reported 1 or more signs



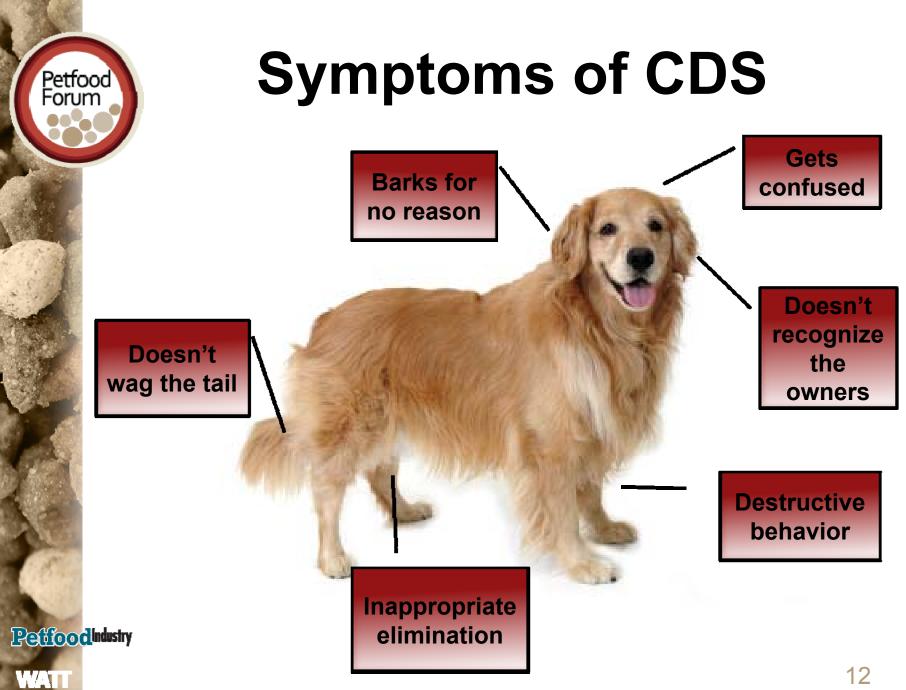
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Symptoms of CDS

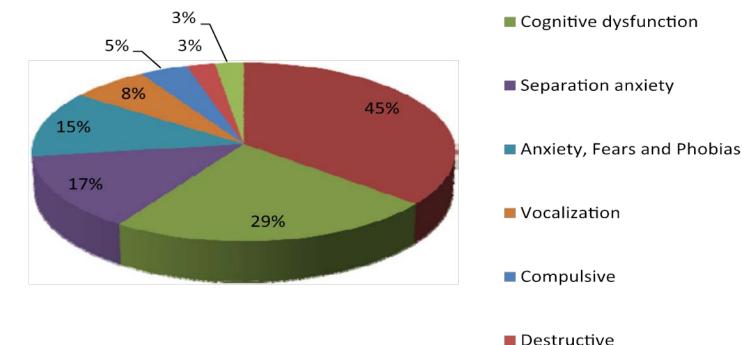
- DISHA
 - Disorientation
 - Altered interactions with people/pets
 - <u>S</u>leep-wake cycle alterations
 - <u>H</u>ouse-soiling
 - Altered <u>a</u>ctivity level
- Other symptoms
 - Increased anxiety
 - Altered appetite
 - Decreased responsiveness to stimuli
 - Deficits in learning/memory

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Prevalence of Owner Reported Signs in Senior Dogs



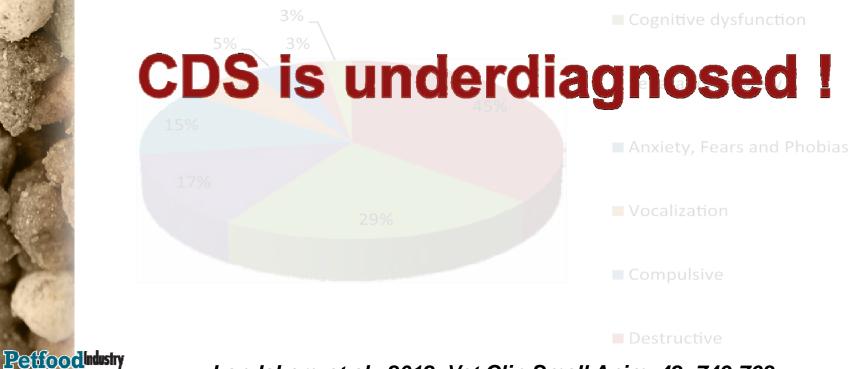
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Landsberg et al., 2012. Vet Clin Small Anim. 42: 749-768 Aggression

Prevalence of Owner Reported Signs in Senior Dogs

Aggression

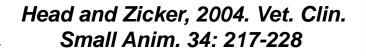


Landsberg et al., 2012. Vet Clin Small Anim. 42: 749-768

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CDS Diagnosis

- Owner observation and reporting still the main form of detection of CDS
 - Insensitive to early and subtle changes in learning and memory
 - Subjective: owners are untrained evaluators





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Diagnosis – Vet Clinics

- Identifying the clinical signs
- Excluding other diseases processes
 - Behavioral effects of medications
 - Steroids
 - Other medical conditions
 - Pain



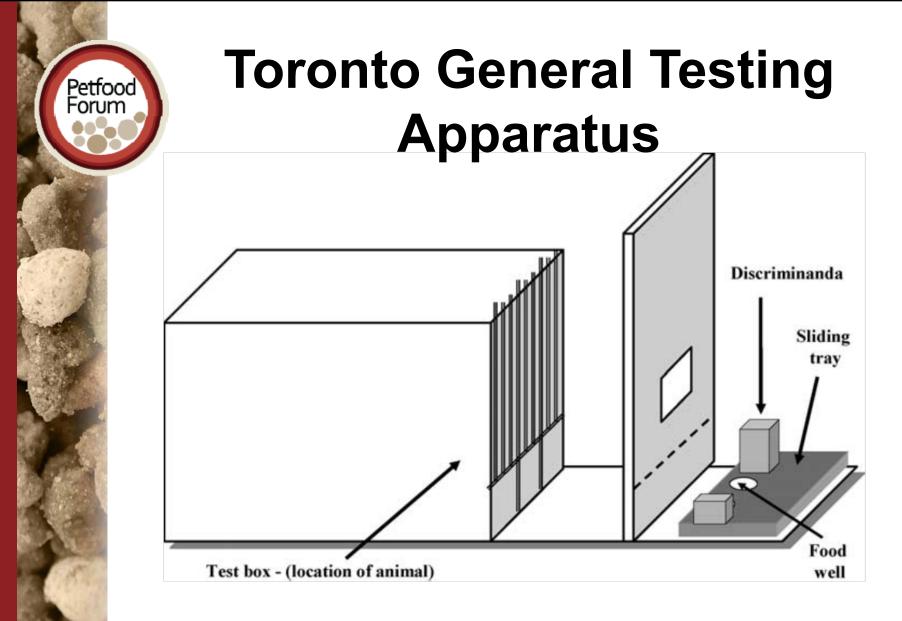
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Diagnosis - Research

- Laboratory cognitive tasks are used to verify a decline in performance in older dogs
 - Discrimination learning
 - Reversal learning
 - Landmark discrimination task (LDMT)



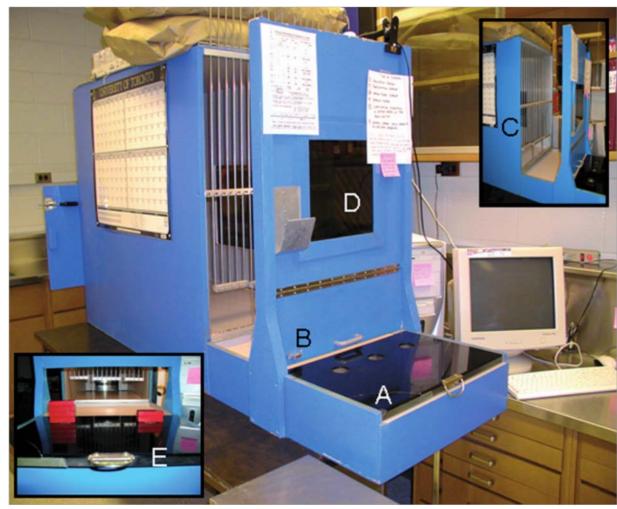
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Milgram et al., 2004. Exp. Gerontol. 39: 753-765

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Toronto General Testing Apparatus



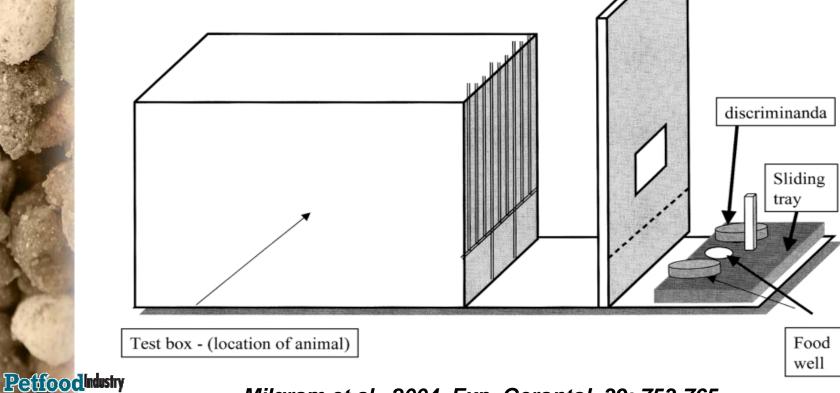
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Tapp and Tapp, 2009. Non-Primate Models of Normal Brain Aging. 1213-1219

Cognitive Testing Landmark Discrimination



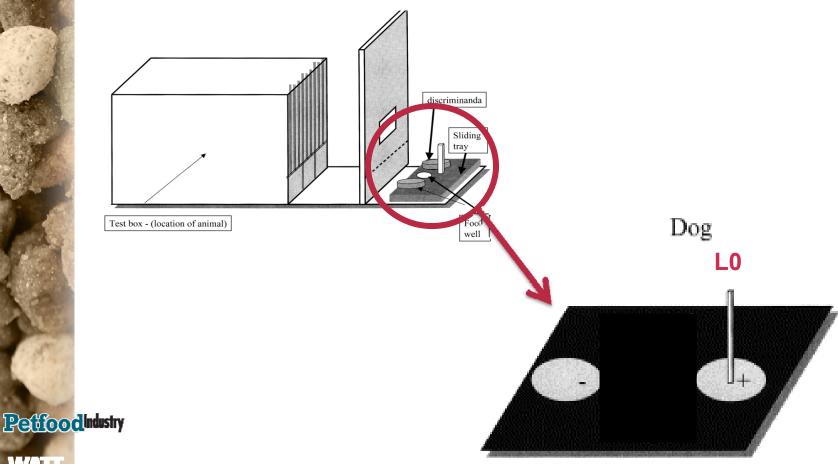
Milgram et al., 2004. Exp. Gerontol. 39: 753-765

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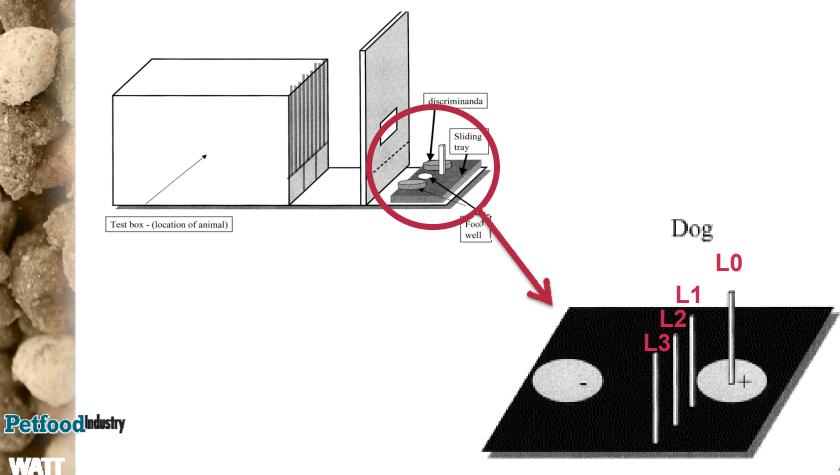
Cognitive Testing Landmark Discrimination

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Cognitive Testing Landmark Discrimination



Brain Aging

Biochemical and morphological alterations

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Brain Aging - Biochemical

- Activity of endogenous antioxidants decreases relative to the production free radicals
- Nervous system (NS) is highly susceptible to oxidative stress
 - Iron-lipid rich environment
 - Limited anti-oxidative capacity
 - Highly oxygenated

Head E. 2013. Biochem Biophys Acta. (Epub ahead of print)

Brain Aging - Biochemical

- A Oxidative damage to lipids, proteins, and DNA/ RNA
 - A Malondialdehyde in the canine frontal lobe and serum
 - - Accumulation of carbonyl groups
 - Reactive oxygen species (ROS)
 - Damage nervous tissue
 - Impair mitochondrial function

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Head E. 2013. Biochem Biophys Acta. (Epub ahead of print)

Brain Aging - Biochemical

- Increase in monoamine oxidase B (MAOB)
 - An enzyme located in the outer mitochondrial membrane in the CNS
 - $-\uparrow ROS$
 - Responsible for the breakdown of neurotransmitter dopamine
 - ↓ in dopamine found to correlate with cognitive and degenerative changes
- Reduction in neurotrophic factors
 - Brain derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF)
 - Nerve growth factor (NGF)

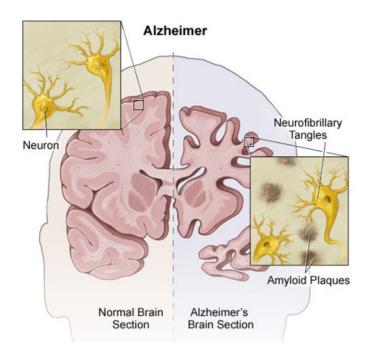
© 1999 John Yesko

Head et al,. 2000. Prog. Neuropsych. Biol. Psychiat. 24: 777-786

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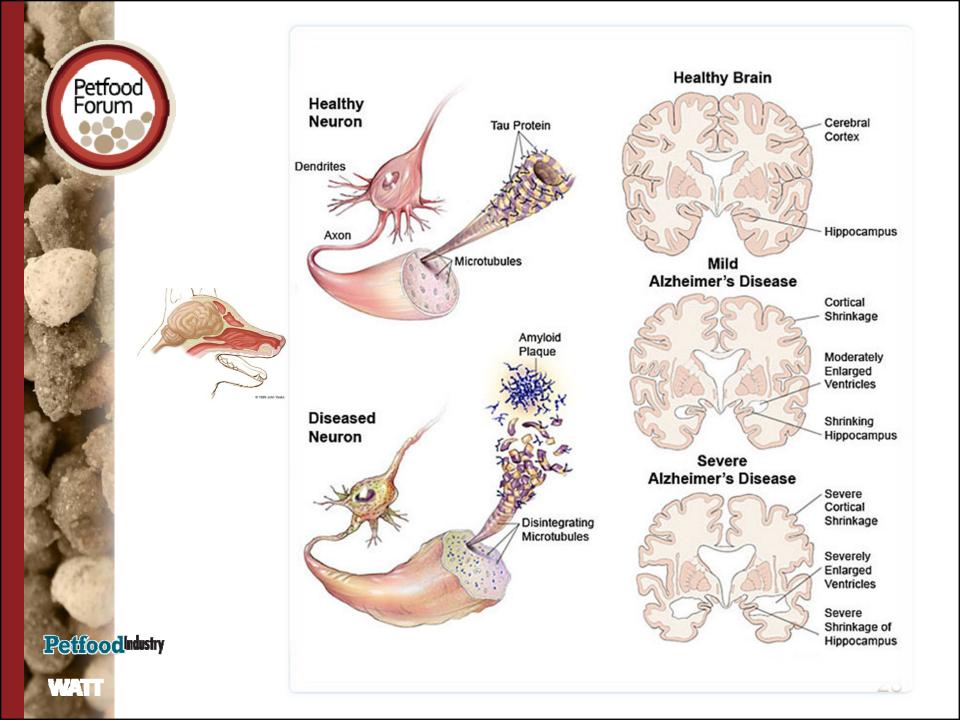
Brain Aging - Morphology

- Similar to humans
 - Beta-amyloid plaque deposition
 - Hyperphosphorylated tau protein
 - Pre-tangle pathology
- Neurodegeneration
 - Neuron loss
 - Cortical atrophy



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Nutritional Management of CDS

- Objectives:
 - Prevent the progression or the onset of CDS
 - Ameliorate clinical signs
 - Improve quality of life



Nutritional Management of CDS

- Antioxidants
- Mitochondrial co-factors
- Branched chain amino acids (BCAA)
- Medium-chain triglycerides (MCT)
- Additional nutraceutical supplements
 - Ginko biloba
 - Phosphatidylserine
 - Pyridoxine (vitamin B6)

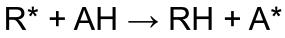
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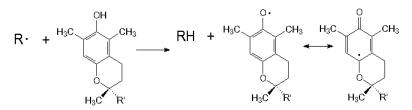
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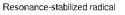


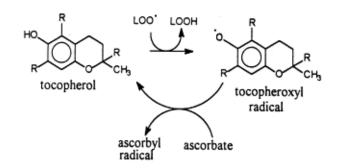
Nutrition and CDS

- Antioxidants
 - Control oxidative damage in cells
 - Antioxidants: vitamin E and C









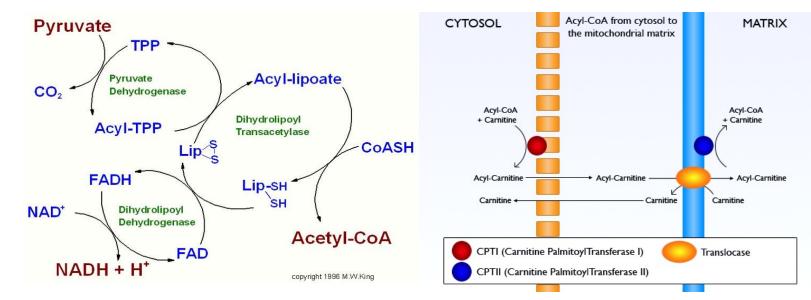
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Nutrition and CDS

Mitochondrial co-factors

- Antioxidant and mitochondrial function enhancer
 - L-carnitine and lipoic acid



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Flavonoids & Carotenoids

- Substances that come from fruits & vegetables and have antioxidant properties
- Sources

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- Spinach flakes
- Tomato pomace
- Grape pomace
- Carrots granules
- Citrus pulp



Effect of Diet and Age

- Dogs
 - Older dogs (8-12y; n=24)
 - Young dogs (2-4.5y; n=17)
- 4 progressive degrees of complexity of LMDT
 - L0 = landmark was on the top of coaster
 - L1, L4, L10 = landmark was 1, 4 and 10 cm away from reward object

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Milgram et al., 2002. Neurosci. Biobehav. Rev. 26: 679-695



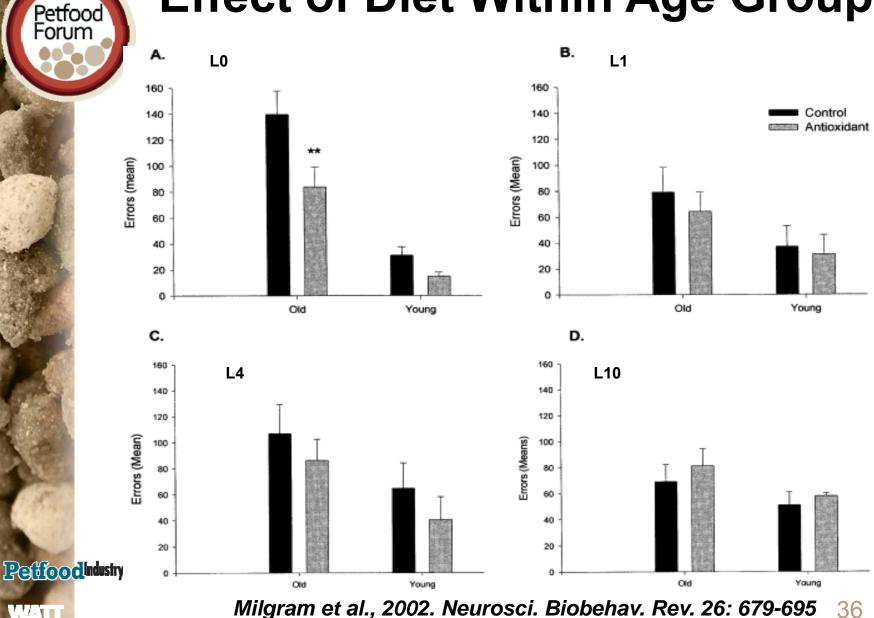
Antioxidant Supplementation

Antioxidant Enriched Diet

Components (DM basis)	Amounts				
L-carnitine	300 ppm				
DL- α-lipoic acid	150 ppm				
DL- α- tocopherol acetate	1550 ppm				
Vitamin C	100 ppm				
Inclusion at expense of corn (1:1)					
Spinach Flakes	1%				
Tomato pomace	1%				
Grape pomace	1%				
Carrot granules	1%				
Citrus pulp	1%				

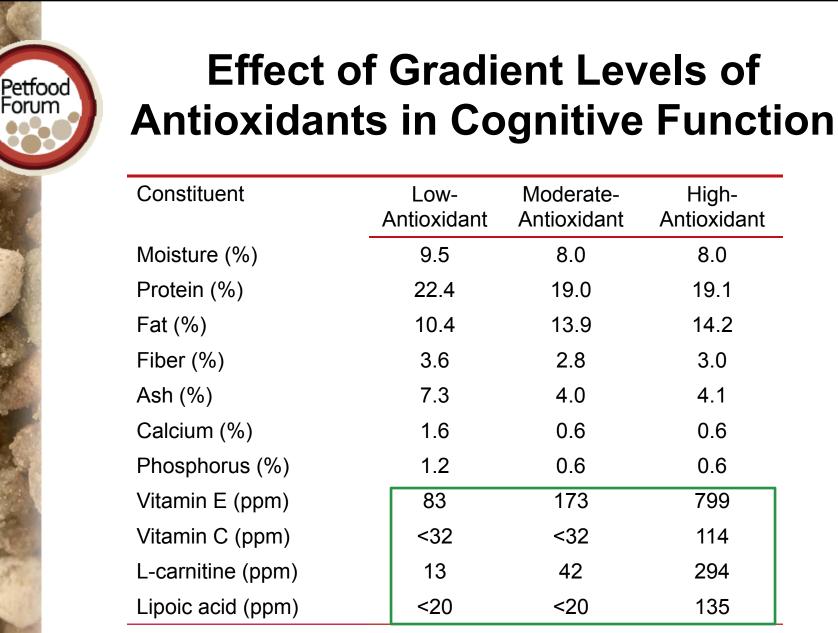
Milgram et al., 2002. Neurosci. Biobehav. Rev. 26: 679-695

Effect of Diet Within Age Group



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Ikeda- Douglas et al., 2004. Veterinary Therapeutics. 5: 5-16

High-

8.0

19.1

14 2

3.0

4.1

0.6

0.6

799

114

294

135



Antioxidant Supplementation Increased Serum Vitamin E Concentration

		Serum Vitamin E Concentration (µg/ml)		
Variable	Days after Food Change	Low Antioxidant	Moderate Antioxidant	High- Complex Antioxidant
Before vitamin E supplement	0	18.2	18.3	16.5
After vitamin E supplement	90	17.9 ^a	23.8 ^b	37.0 ^c
Change*		-0.3 ^a	5.5 ^b	20.5 ^c

^{a, b, c} Values within a row having different superscripts are significantly different (P < .05) *Change = Value after vitamin E – Value before vitamin E

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Ikeda- Douglas et al., 2004. Veterinary Therapeutics. 5: 5-16



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Antioxidant Supplementation Improved Cognitive Function

Landmark Study	Low- Antioxidant Food	Moderate- Antioxidant Food	High – Complex Antioxidant Food
0	28.9	49.2	59.5
1	93.8 ^a	50.9 ^b	30.2 ^b
2	75.7 ^a	49.1 ^b	34.9 ^b
1 + 2	169.5 ^a	100.0 ^b	65.1 ^c

^{a, b, c} Group means within a landmark task (row) having different superscripts are significantly different using serum vitamin E as a covariate (P < .05)

Ikeda- Douglas et al., 2004. Veterinary Therapeutics. 5: 5-16

Effect of Diet and Environment

- Dogs
 - Ölder dogs (10 y; n=23)
- Antioxidant supplementation and environmental enrichment
 - Improve cognitive function
- Brain derived neutrotophic factor mRNA expression
- Cognitive task performance
 - Delayed non-matching to position

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Fahnestock et al., 2012. Neurobiol. Aging. 33: 546-554

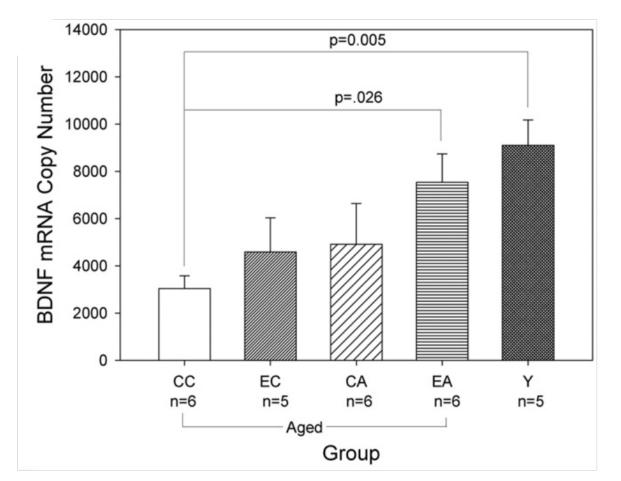


Antioxidant Supplementation

Dietary Treatments						
	Control	Enriched				
Components (as is basis)						
L-carnitine	20	260 ppm				
DL- α-lipoic acid	20	128 ppm				
DL- α- tocopherol acetate	120	1050 ppm				
Vitamin C	30	80 ppm				
Inclusion at expense of corn (1:1)						
Spinach Flakes	-	1%				
Tomato pomace	-	1%				
Grape pomace	-	1%				
Carrot granules	-	1%				
Citrus pulp	-	1%				

Fahnestock et al., 2012. Neurobiol. Aging. 33: 546-554

Antioxidant Diet and Enriched Environment Increased BDNF mRNA



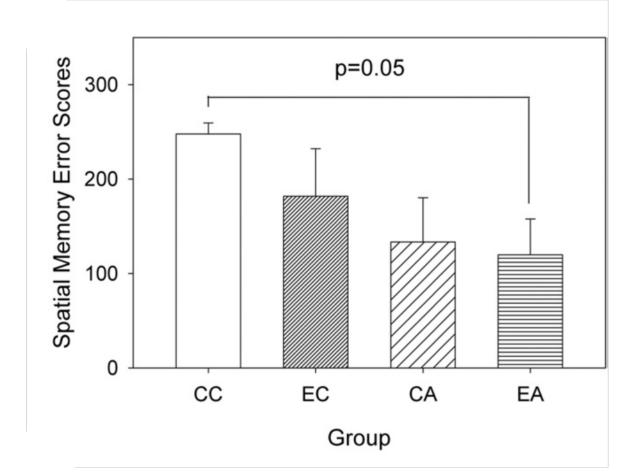
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Fahnestock et al., 2012. Neurobiol. Aging. 33: 546-554

Antioxidant Diet and Enriched Environment Improved Spatial Memory



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Fahnestock et al., 2012. Neurobiol. Aging. 33: 546-554

Lipoic Acid and L-Carnitine

- 12 senior beagles (ave. 8y)
- 2 treatment groups
 - Control
 - Lipoic acid (110 ppm) + L-carnitine (275 ppm)
 - 2 mo period
- Landmark discrimination task
 - L-0
 - L-1 (visual cue was placed 1 cm away from the object)

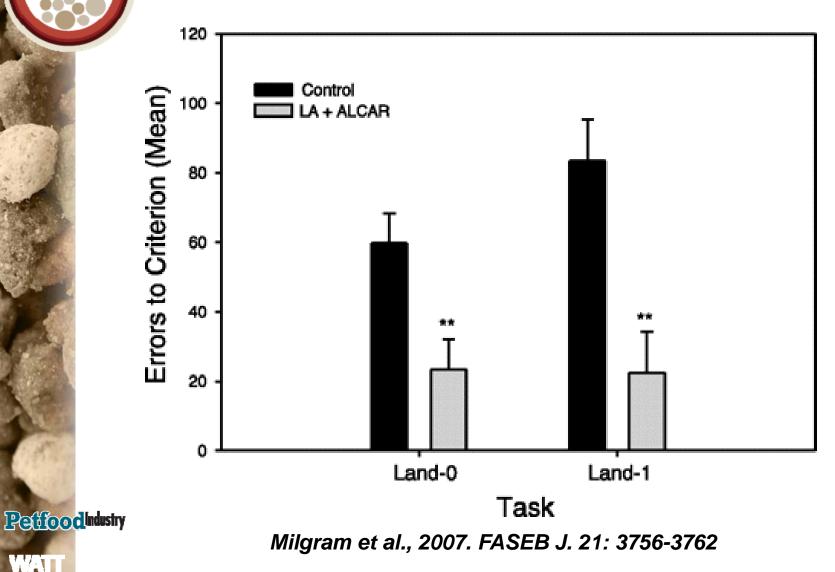
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Milgram et al., 2007. FASEB J. 21: 3756-3762

Improvement in Cognition



Individual and Synergistic Effect of **Lipoic Acid and L-Carnitine** Supplementation

- 30 senior beagles (ave. 9y)
- 3 treatment groups

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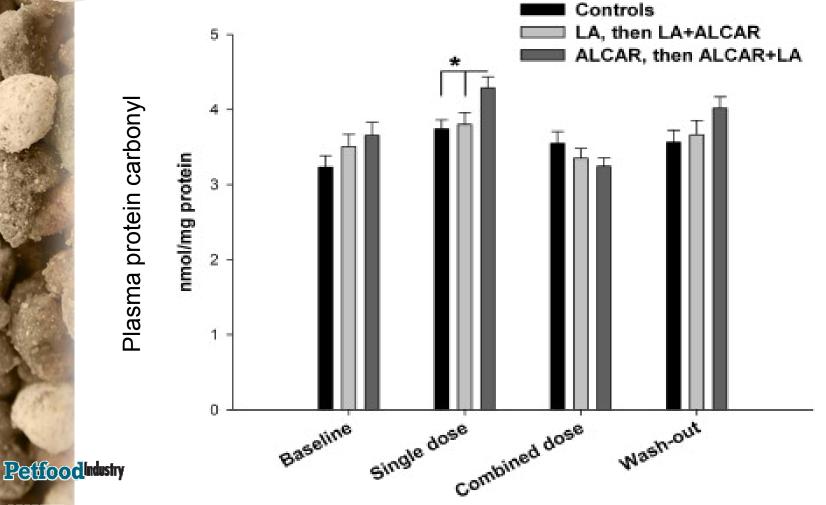
- First phase (129 d)
 - Control
 - Lipoic acid (11mg/kg)
 - Carnitine (27.5mg/kg)
- Second phase (79 d)
 - Control
 - Lipoic acid (11mg/kg) + Carnitine (27.5mg/kg)
 - Carnitine (27.5mg/kg) + Lipoic acid (11mg/kg)
- Landmark discrimination task **Petfood**Industry

Christie et al., 2009. Exp. Gerontol. 44: 752-759

L-Carnitine Supplementation Increased Marker of Oxidative Stress

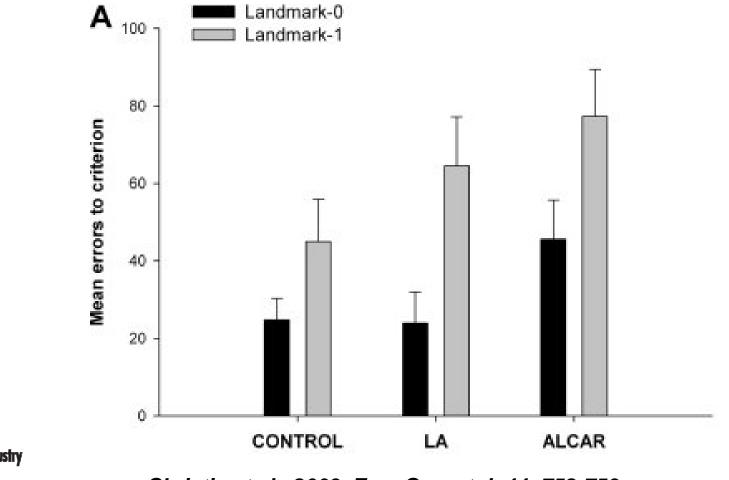
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Christie et al., 2009. Exp. Gerontol. 44: 752-759

Effect of Individual Supplementation of Mitochondrial Co-Factors on Cognition



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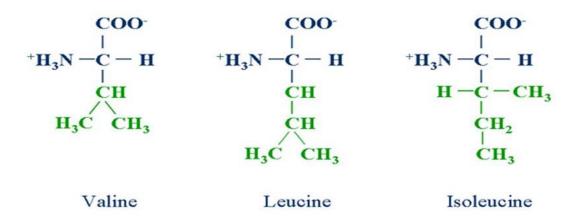
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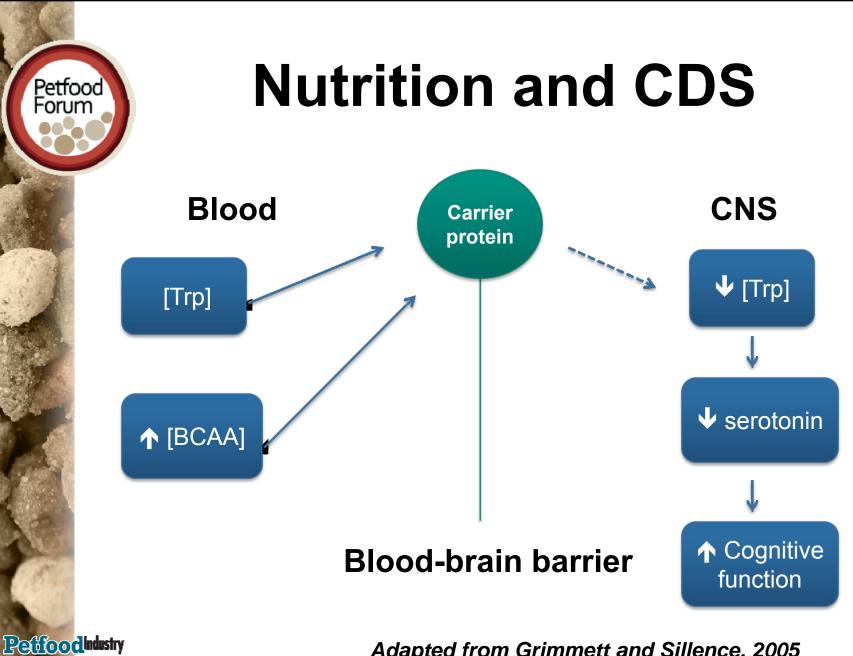
Christie et al., 2009. Exp. Gerontol. 44: 752-759

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Nutrition and CDS

- Branched-chain amino acid (BCAA)
 - Valine, leucine, isoleucine
 - Compete with tryptophan (Trp) for entry into the brain





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Adapted from Grimmett and Sillence, 2005



BCAA and Cognition

- 24 dogs
 - Young: 1.5-3.5 y
 - Senior: 11.1-13.1 y
- 2 dietary treatments
 - Control
 - Enriched
 - 40% valine
 - 35% leucine
 - 35% isoleucine
 - 7% CH₂O solution
- Training: 7-obstacle agility course

Fretwell et al., 2009. J. Nutr. 136: 2069S-2071S

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BCAA Improved Cognition in Senior Dogs

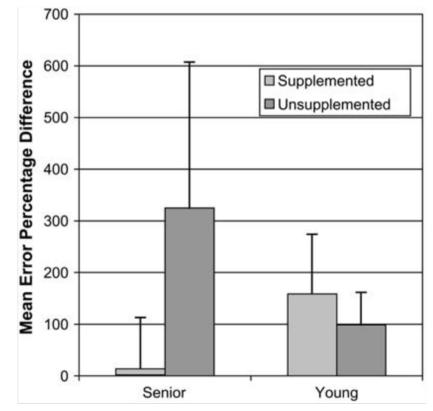


FIGURE 3 Supplementation provides a greater benefit to senior dogs (n = 12) than to young dogs (n = 12). MANOVA, P < 0.02; error bars represent SD.

Fretwell et al., 2009. J. Nutr. 136: 2069S-2071S

Medium-chain Triglycerides and CDS

- Decline of cerebral glucose metabolism
- MCT alternative source of energy
 - Ketones
 - β-hydroxybutyrate

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MCT and Cognition

• 24 dogs

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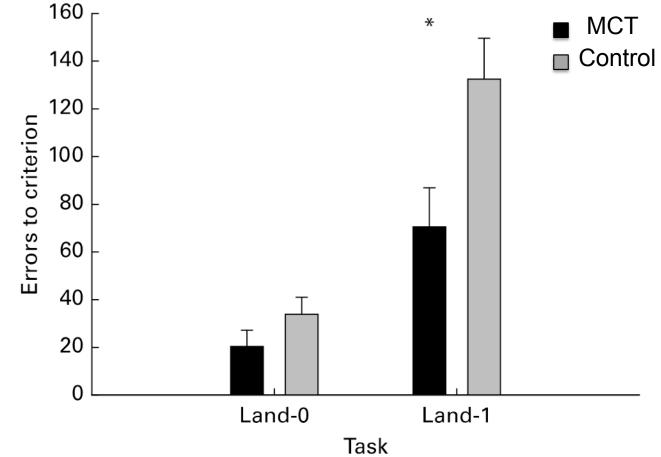
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- Senior: 7.5-11.6 y
- 2 dietary treatments
 - Control
 - Enriched
 - 5.5% MCT
 - 97% caprylic acid (C8)
 - 3% capric acid (C10)
 - » 100d period
- Discrimination, reversal and landmark tests

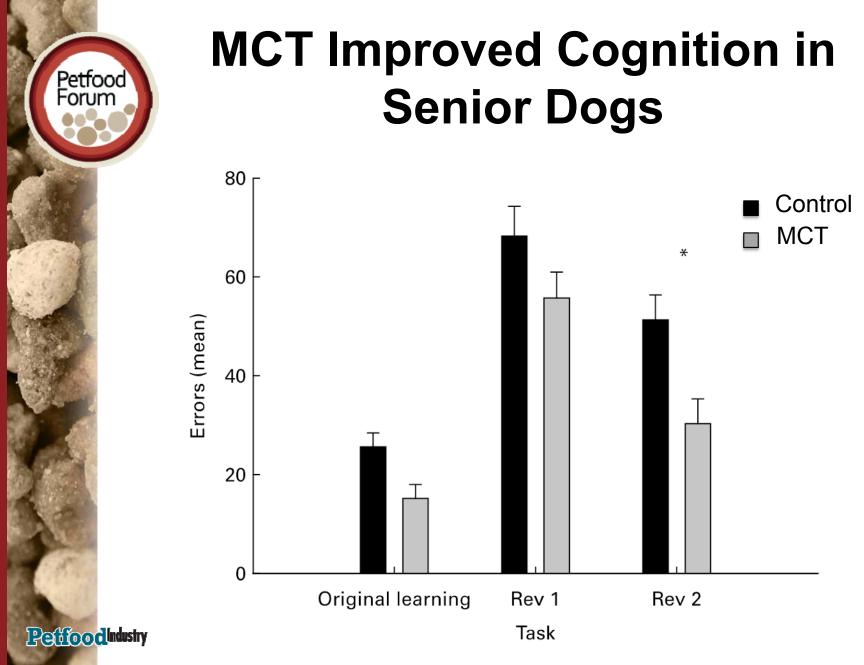
Pan et al., 2010. Br. J. Nutr. 103: 1746-1754



MCT Improved Cognition in Senior Dogs



Pan et al., 2010. Br. J. Nutr. 103: 1746-1754



Pan et al., 2010. Br. J. Nutr. 103: 1746-1754

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Nutraceutical Supplementation

- Phosphatidylserine (PS)
 - Natural phospholipid of cell membranes
 - Facilitate membrane-dependent neuronal processes
 - Signal transduction
 - Release of secretory vesicles

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Nutraceutical Supplementation

- Gingko Biloba Extract (GBE)
 - Inhibits monoamine oxidase B activity, thereby ↑ dopamine levels
 - May protect against neuronal apoptosis induced by beta-amyloid
 - Due to antioxidant properties of GBE

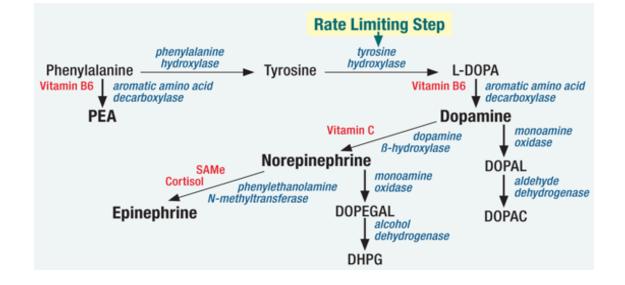


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Nutraceutical Supplementation

- Pyridoxine (B6)
 - Co-factor in synthesis of dopamine
 - Act synergistically with PS & GBE to \uparrow dopamine



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Neuroprotective Nutraceutical

Senilife[®]

- Phosphatidylserine (25 mg)
- Ginkgo Biloba Extract (50 mg)
- Vitamin B₆ (20.5 mg)
- Vitamin E (33.5 mg)



Osella et al,. 2007. Applied Anim. Behav. Sci. 105: 297-310

Neuroprotective Nutraceutical

- Senilife[®]
 - Pilot study
 - Positive effects on behavioral status
 - 3 mo supplementation
 - Non-controlled, open-label (n=8)
 - Cross-over study
 - Supplementation increased performance compared to baseline (n=5)
 - -2 mo supplementation

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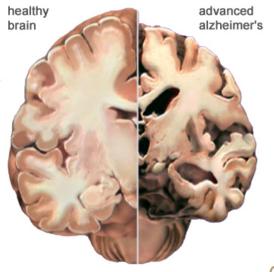
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> Osella et al,. 2007. Applied Anim. Behav. Sci. 105: 297-310 Araujo et al., 2008. Can. Vet. J. 49: 379-385

Final Remarks

- Nutritional management of CDS
 - Ameliorate clinical signs
 - Postpone onset of this condition
 - Model for human brain aging
 - Alzheimer's disease



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Forum

Final Remarks

- Diets enriched with antioxidants and mitochondrial cofactors
 - Improve cognitive performance in senior dogs
 - Little information on potential benefits of supplementation of individual components
 - Effectiveness?
 - Ideal dose?

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Final Remarks

- BCAA and MCT supplementation
 - Improve ability of senior dogs to sustain cognitive performance
- Phosphatidylserine, ginko biloba and vitamins B₆ and E
 - Potential in ameliorating CDS

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Additional Considerations

- Environmental enrichment and stimulation
 - Synergistic effect with nutrition therapy
 - Positive effect on CDS management



- Limited information on nutritional management
 - Minerals (e.g. Fe, Cu, Se)
 - Pro- or antioxidant function
 - Polyphenols (e.g. curcuminoids)
 - Antioxidant
 - Anti-inflammatory
 - Anti-amyloid activity
 - Turmeric considered "generally recognized as safe" (GRAS)

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- Limited information on nutritional management
 - ω 3 PUFAs
 - Brain tissue cell membranes rich in PUFAs such as DHA
 - − \uparrow age, \uparrow ROS, and \downarrow [PUFA]
 - Promote cell membrane fluidity and health
 - Anti-inflammatory

Araujo et al., 2005. Age. 27: 27-37

• Long-life study, protective effect?

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- Better characterize longitudinal neuropathologic, metabolic, and behavioral changes
 - Metabolites, genomic, imaging, etc.
- Current technology support the study of CDS without the need of invasive techniques
- Identification of pre-clinical biomarker
 - Early intervention

Landsberg et al., 2012. Vet. Clin. Small Anim. 42: 749-768



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- Potential interactions of CDS
 - Obesity
 - Pro-inflammatory
 - Increase oxidative stress



- Spay/ neuter
 - Removal of reproductive hormones have been related to decline in cognition
 - Protective effect of testosterone in dogs Hart B. 2001. JAVMA 219: 51-55

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Take Home Message



- CDS no cure
- Nutritional management appears to improve cognitive function and hallmarks of neurodegeneration in senior dogs
 - Current literature still controversial
- Technology is available to better understand CDS
- Improving the quality of life and well being of pets
 and their owners

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Thank you!

"Because humans created dogs through domestication, the canine mind reflects back to us how we see ourselves through the eyes, ears, and nose of other species". Berns et al., 2012



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Neuroprotective Nutraceutical

Novifit®

- S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe) tosylate supplement for senior dogs and cats
- SAMe is a methyl donor
 - Involved in transmethylation of nucleic acid, proteins, phospholipids, and neurotransmitters
- Stimulates brain glutathione
 - Antioxidant activity

Araujo et al,. 2012. Intern. J. Appl. Res. Vet. Med. 10: 90-98



Neuroprotective Nutraceutical

Novifit[®]

 Potential positive effects in improving cognition in senior cats

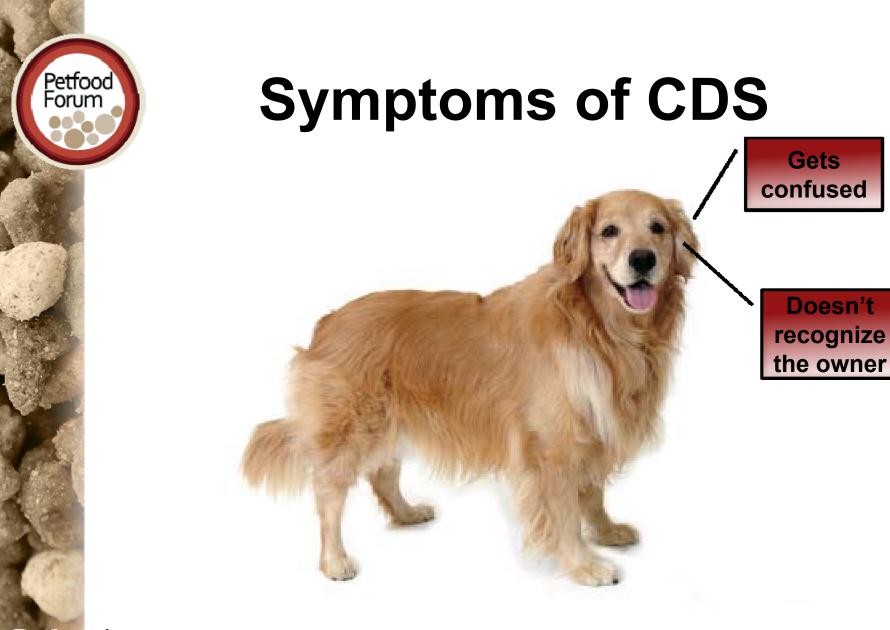
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Araujo et al, 2012. Intern. J. Appl. Res. Vet. Med. 10: 90-98



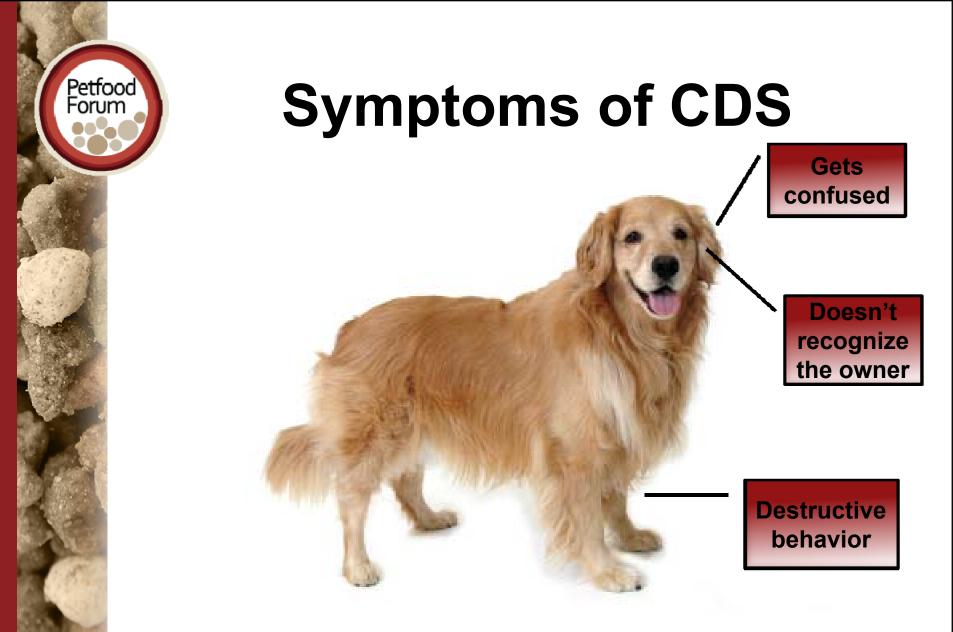
Symptoms of CDS

Gets confused



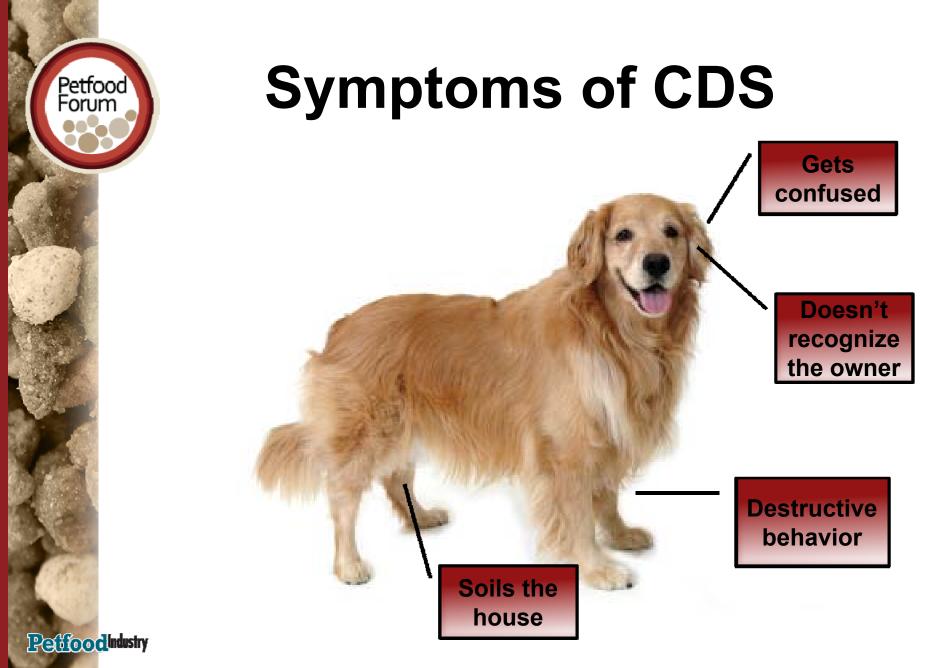
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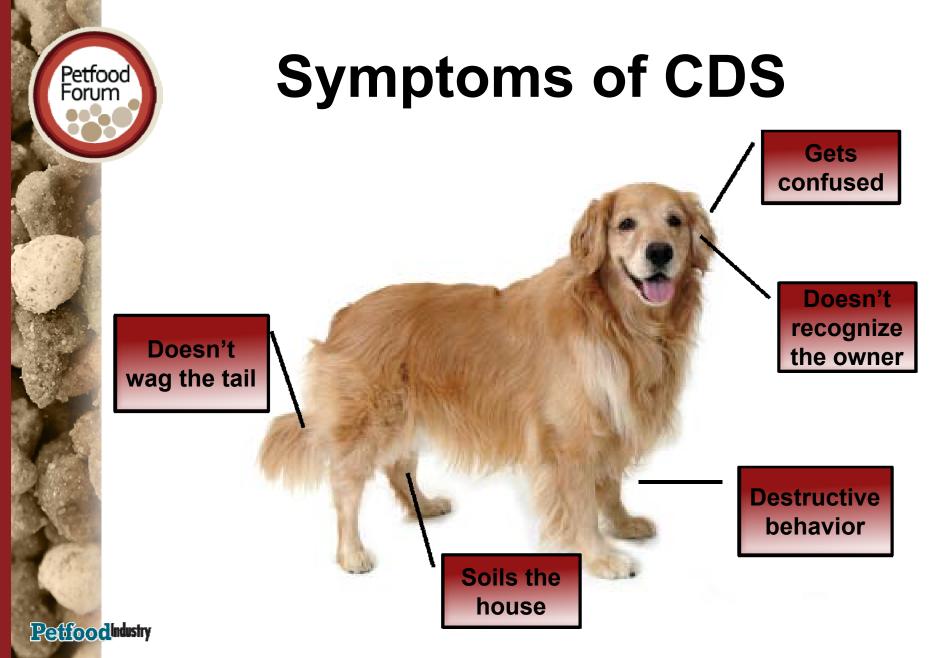


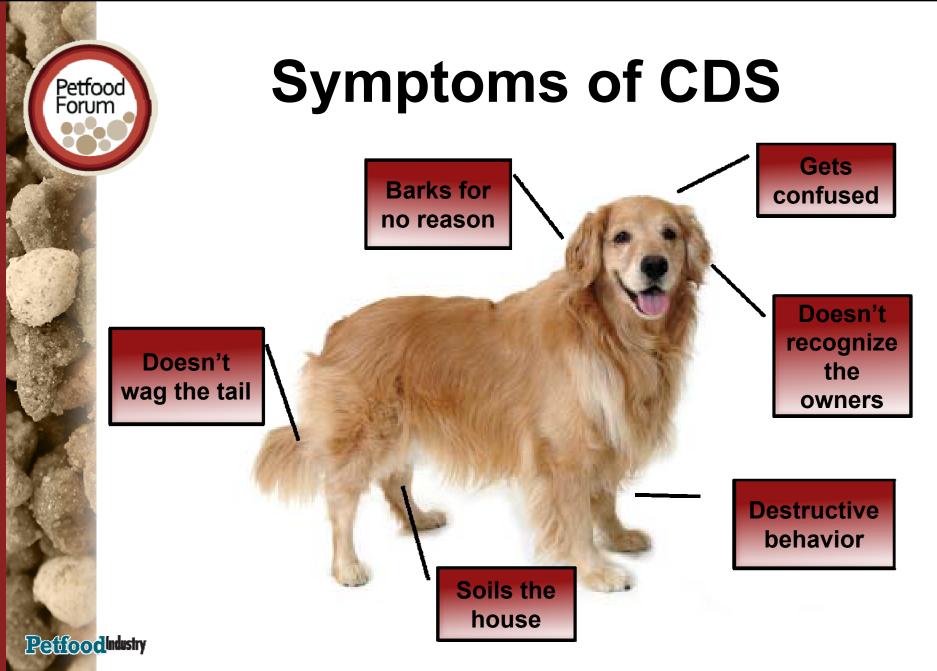
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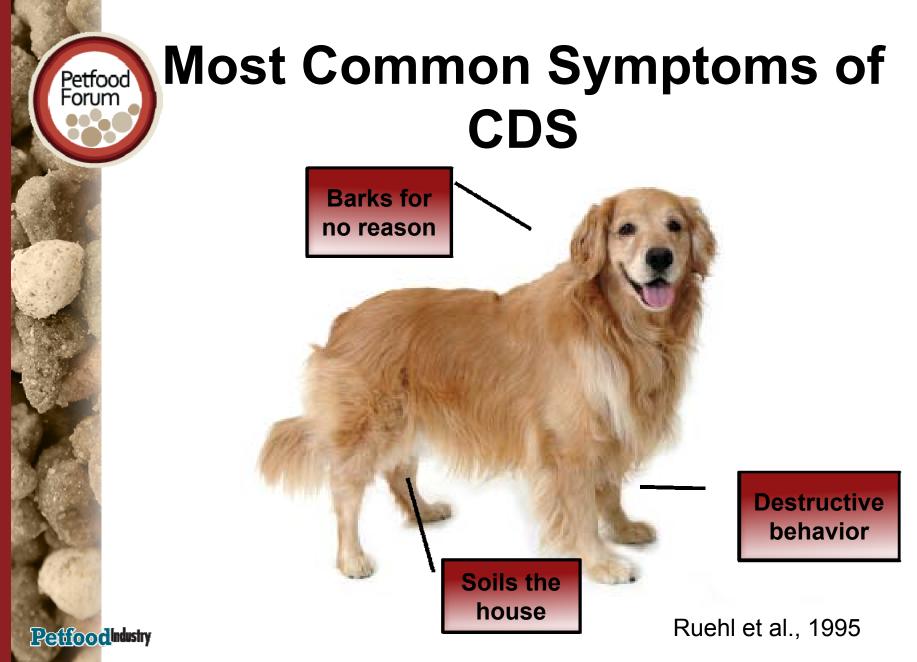
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Cognitive Testing Landmark Discrimination

Tests allocentric knowledge

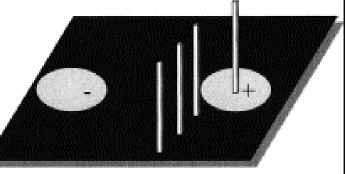
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- Observer uses external landmarks to locate objects as opposed to body position as reference
- Neurologic damage is associated with allocentric dysfunction
- Landmark moved to different positions
 - L0 : on top of coaster (easiest)
 - L1: removed from coaster
 - L2: further removed from coaster

Dog



82

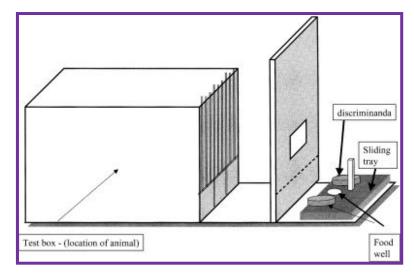


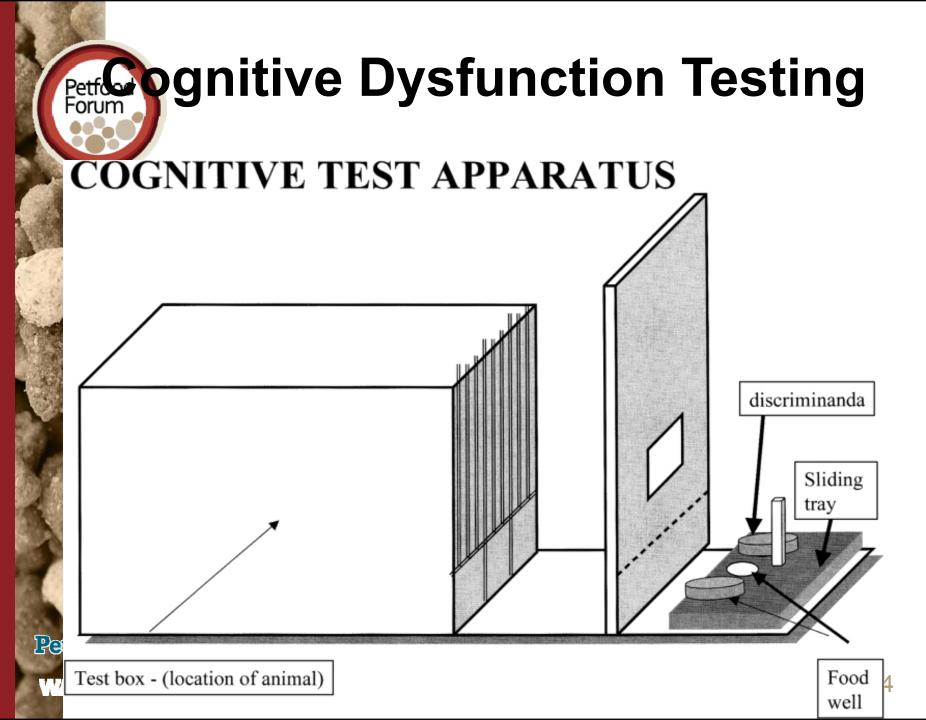
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Toronto General Testing Apparatus

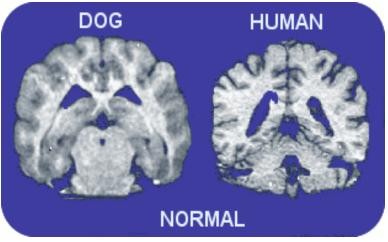
- Dogs are offered a variety of objects (2-3 at a time)
- Object location computer randomized
- Food rewards located under "correct" object
- Dogs "pass" when achieve set criterion
 - 1) Score of 90% OR scores of 80% over 2 days
 - 2) Then 70% over next 3 days





Dogs as Human Models

- Dogs and humans present similar morphological features in brain aging
 - Cortical atrophy (frontal lobes and hippocampus)
 - Ventricular widening
 - Demyelination
 - Reduced neurons
 - Increased apoptotic bodies



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Nutrition - Aging Dogs

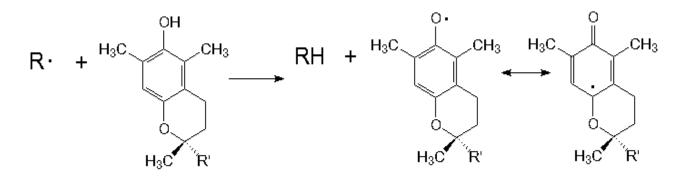
- Traditional
 - Focused on growth and adult maintenance
- Recently
 - Movement towards specialized diets that meet nutritional needs of specific events
 - One example: aging and cognitive health

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Vitamin E

- A lipid soluble antioxidant
 - Can neutralize free radicals & prevent damage to cell membranes

$R^* + AH \rightarrow RH + A^*$

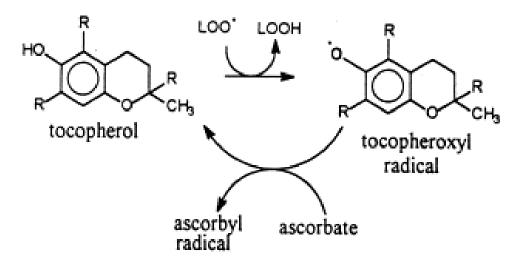


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Vitamin C (Ascorbic Acid)

 May work to restore antioxidant properties of Vitamin E



Rock et. al, 1996 "Update on the biological characteristics of the antioxidant micronutrients: Vitamin C, vitamin E, and the carotenoids

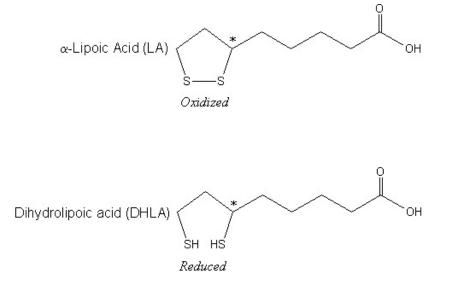
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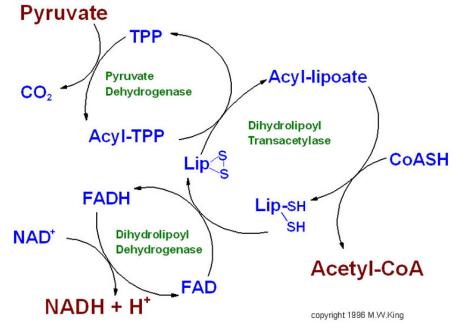
α – Lipoic Acid

- Organosulfur compound
- Synthesized in the liver
 - L-cysteine
 - Octanoic acid
- Lipophilic property + COOH group
- Small amounts present in the body



α – Lipoic Acid

- Co- factor
 - pyruvate
 dehydrogenase
 complex
 - α-ketoglutarate
 dehydrogenase
 complex
 - the branched chain
 α -keto-acid
 dehydrogenase
 complex



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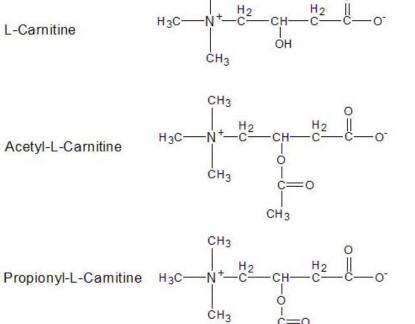
L-carnitine

- Quaternary ammonium compound
- Synthesized from lysine and methionine in the liver and kidneys
 - Co-factors: Fe²⁺ and Vit. C
- 95% is stored in the skeletal muscle



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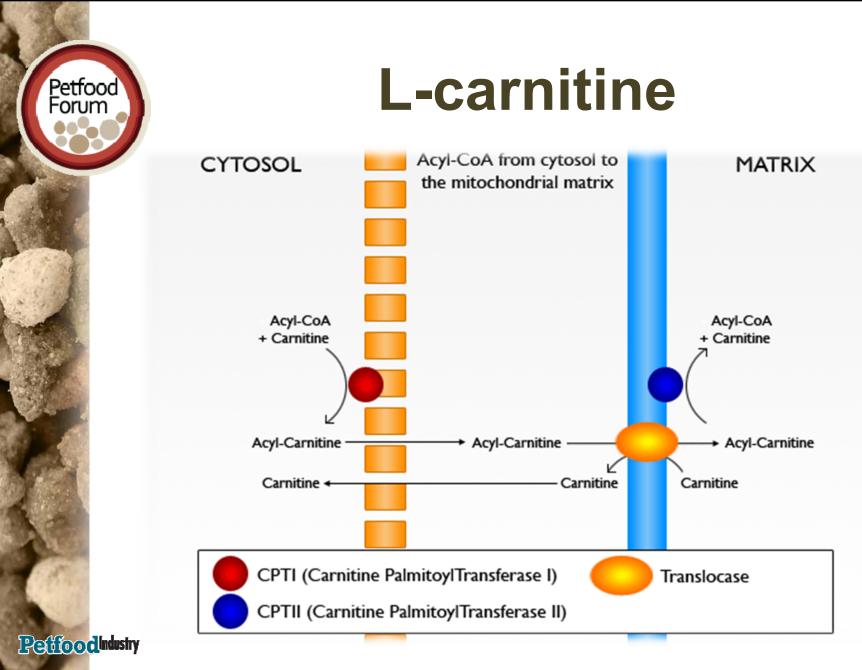
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CH2

CH3

CH₃





Ikeda – Douglas et. al, 2004

- 30 beagles
 - Old dogs (9-13y)
 - 18 beagles experienced (pre-trained)
 - 12 beagles naive
 - 28 completed the study
- 3 progressive degrees of complexity of LMDT
 - L0 = landmark was on the top of coaster
 - L1, L4= landmark was 1, 4 cm away from reward object
- Dogs advanced for next level when succeed in the previous one

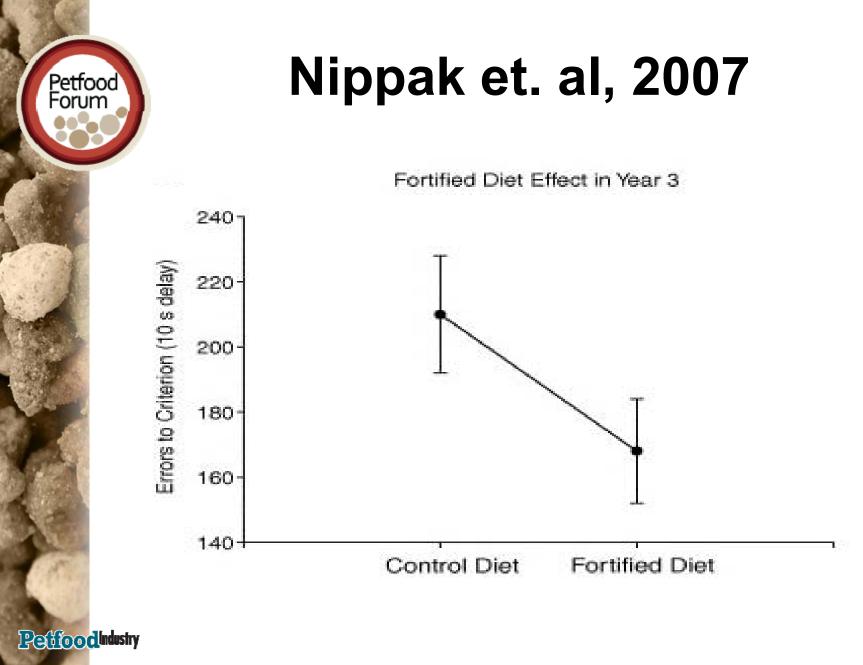
Ikeda- Douglas et al., 2004. Veterinary Therapeutics. 5: 5-16

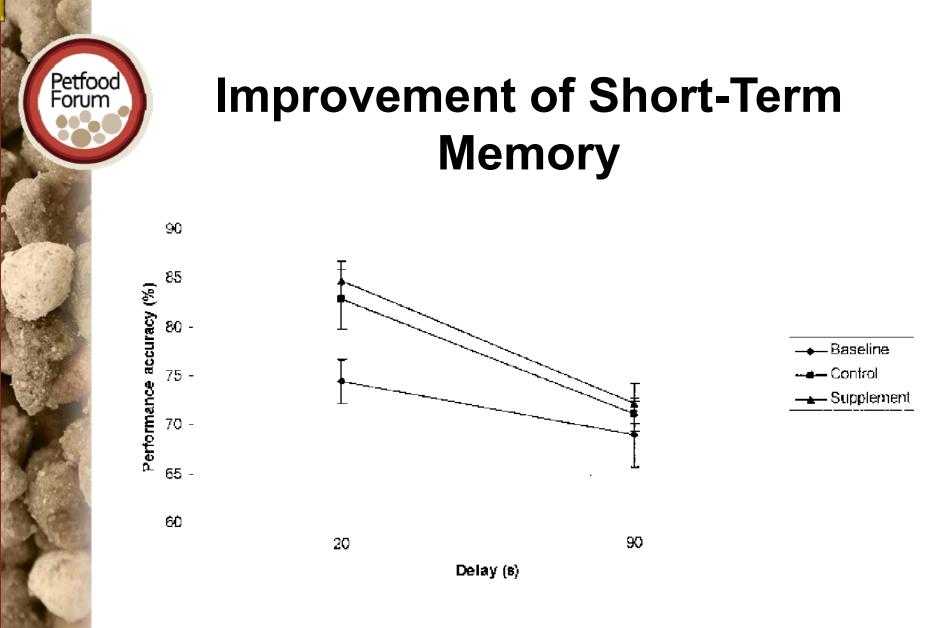
Nippak et. al, 2007

Diets		
Components	Control	Enriched
D, L-α-tocopherol acetate	120 ppm	1000 ppm
L-carnitine	< 20 ppm	275 ppm
D, L- α-lipoic acid	< 20 ppm	125 ppm
Ascorbic acid as Stay - C	< 30 ppm	80 ppm
Inclusion 1:1 exchange for corn		
Spinach flakes	-	1%
Tomato pomace	-	1%
Grape pomace	-	1%
Carrot granules	-	1%
Citrus pulp	-	1%

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Araujo et al,. 2008. Can. Vet. J. 49: 379-385

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Open-Label Clinical Pilot Trial

- 124 dog were screened for cognitive function
 - 22 exclude due to other medical problems
 - Remaining 102 dogs
 - -75 signs of CDS
 - 18 diagnosed for CDS
- 8 dogs diagnosed with CDS enrolled in the trial
 - Senilife[®] administered at 1 capsule per 5 kg body weight per day for 3 months

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Osella et al,. 2007. Applied Anim. Behav. Sci. 105: 297-310



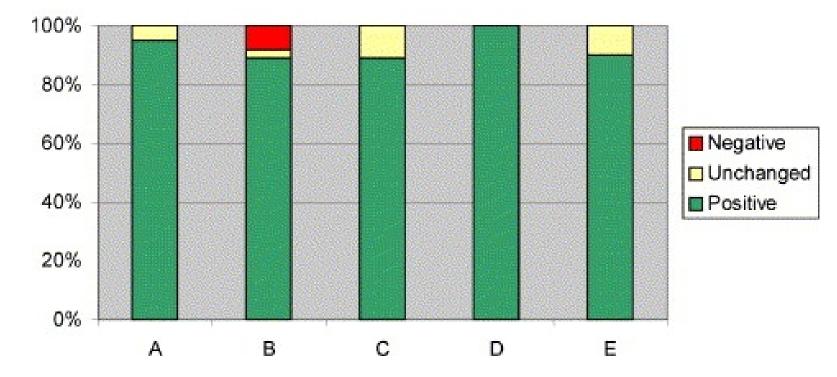
Rated behaviors as never, rarely, often, always (ranked 0-3 in analysis)

Criteria for evaluation of cognitive status in dogs		
Category	Description of category	
Disorientation (D)	Confusion, altered spatial orientation, failure in recognizing familiar people, surroundings, and routines	
Socio- environmental interaction (I)	Altered interaction with people or other dogs, late or no answer to learnt commands	
Sleep-wake cycles (<mark>S</mark>)	Increased daytime sleep, decreased and altered sleep at night	
House soiling (H)	Accidents indoors, loss of urination and/or defecation control with or without incontinence	
Activity (A)	Decreased purpose activities and increased repetitive aimless activities	

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Improvement of Cognitive Status

Distribution of score variations for question subsets



A: socio-environmental interaction, B: disorientation, C: sleep-wake cycles, D: house soiling, and E: general activity

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Osella et al,. 2007. Applied Anim. Behav. Sci. 105: 297-310

Nutrition and CDS

- Omega-3 long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (DHA and EPA)
- Brain tissue cell membranes rich in PUFAs such as DHA
 - \uparrow age, \uparrow ROS, and \downarrow [PUFA]
- Promote cell membrane fluidity and health
- Anti-inflammatory

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